

**AMENDMENT**

Amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 8-13 to read as follows. A marked up copy of the amended paragraph appears on page 8 of this amendment.

B1  
--This is a divisional of my copending application U.S. Serial No. 09/080,968, filed 19 May 1998, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and which is a continuation-in-part of my co-pending applications U.S. Serial No. 09/058,469, filed 10 April 1998, and U.S. Serial No. 09/058,430, filed 10 April 1998, now abandoned, which are continuations-in-part of my co-pending application U.S. Serial No. 08/591,503, filed 02 August 1994 (International Filing Date), now U.S. Patent No. 5,753,296, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/100,905, filed 03 August 1993, now abandoned.--

**In the Claims:**

Cancel claim 1.

Add the following new claims:

62. A method for reducing the pathogenicity of a food or food-derived product, comprising:

treating the food or food-derived product with super critical fluid or critical liquid carbon dioxide or nitrogen.

63. A method according to claim 62, wherein pathogens in the food or food-derived product are so degraded as to lose their pathogenicity.

B2  
64. A method according to claim 62, comprising reducing the pathogenicity of at least one organism selected from the group consisting of bacteria, fungi, viruses, and prion particles.